

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-10 /070 W

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O R 011017Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3906

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 1044

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI PINS PINT AO

SUBJECT: ROUNDUP, 1100, AUGUST 1

1. LIMITED FIGHTING REPORTED JULY 31 AT SASSA, FIVE KILOMETERS SOUTH OF CAXITO MAY REPRESENT AN MPLA EFFORT TO REGAIN THE TOWN, WHICH SOME REPORTEDLY SAY IT LOST THREE DAYS AGO. FIGHTING CONTINUES SOUTH OF LUANDA AT NOVO REDONDO, QUIBALA. PORTO AMBOIM AND GABELA; TO THE EAST AT CACUSO, DUQUE DE BRAGANCA AND MALANJE. MPLA WAS REPORTED BY ONE SOURCE TO HAVE ATTACKED UNITA FORCES IN LUSO.

2. REFUGEE COLUMNS FROM THE INTERIOR ARE HEADING SOUTH TO NOVA LISBOA INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MAKE THEIR WAY TO LUANDA. LACK OF FUEL ALONG THE HIGHWAY TO LUANDA IS ONE REASON AND ANOTHER IS THE FEAR OF AN FNLA INVASION OF THE CITY. A LARGE GROUP OF REFUGEES, SAID BY ONE PRESS ACCOUNT TO NUMBER 6,000 ARRIVED IN NOVA LISBOA JULY 31 VIA SILVA PORTO.

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3. A WAVE OF GOVERNMENT SYMPATHY STRIKES IS SPREADING AND NOW

INCLUDES THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PUBLIC WORKS AND THE SUPER2 INTENDENCY OF CREDIT AND INSURANCE. THE ISSUE IS THE ROUGH TREATMENT BY PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS OF A FINANCE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE ON JUL 29. WHILE THE SOLDIERS, COMMANDOS, WERE CHASING A THIEF, THE EMPLOYEE IN QUESTION YELLED INSULTS AT THEM FROM THE FINANCE BUILDING. THE TROOPS WENT AFTER HIM. BEAT HIM UP AND TOOK HIM AWAY.

4. THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE LUANDA OPERATIONAL COMMAND ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ON JULY 31 SUPPORTING THEIR CHIEF, COLONEL ALMENDRA. THEY EXPRESS THEIR CONFIDENCE IN HIM AND THEIR BELIEF THAT HE IS ACTING WITHIN THE AFM PROGRAM FOR DECOLONIZATION. ALMENDRA IS PERSONALLY OF THE SCHOOL THAT BELIEVES VIOLENCE MUST BE CONTROLLED BY VIOLENCE. HE IS SUSPECTED OF BEING BEHIND THE VILA ALICE ATTACK ON JULY 27.

5. THE SHELL TANK FIRE CONSUMED FIVE MILLION OF THE TANK'S EIGHT MILLION LITERS OF JET FUEL. LUANDA NOW HAS FIFTEEN DAYS OF JET FUEL LEFT. CONSERVATION MEASURES ARE IN EFFECT AND THE TAP 747'S FROM LISBON DISCHARGE FUEL HERE AND TANK UP ON THE WAY NORTH AT ACCRA, A TANKER WITH JET FUEL IS NOW EXPECTED IN LUANDA AUGUST 10.

6. THE WOMAN DOCTOR KIDNAPPED ON JULY 28 IS STILL MISSING AND THE DOCTORS UNION WILL MEET AUGUST 1 TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AND THEIR STRIKE THREAT. THE DOCTOR IN QUESTION IS SAID TO BE AN FNLA SUPPORTER AND MAY HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY MPLA IRREGULARS. KILLULAN

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